

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 2 May 61

SUBJECT Benzinol National Corporation

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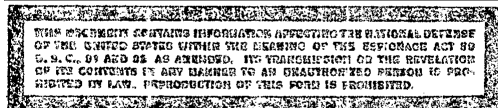
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Benzinol National Corporation, Prague II, Špalena 5, was established in the latter half of 1948 for the distribution of solid and liquid fuels, gas, oils and greases. The central management of Benzinol is organized into an administrative section, for accounting, packing and shipping, advertising and maintenance of storage facilities, and a technical section, which controls research in cooperation with producers of petroleum products, lubrication of all Czech factory machinery and maintenance of pumps and pumping stations. Subordinate to the central management are eighteen territorial managements, organized along lines similar to that of the central management. The technical engineers attached to the territorial managements determine the type and amount of lubrication required by all the machinery in the factories of the national corporations in their area. On the basis of these findings the petroleum refineries establish their production plan.

2. Benzinol controls all the fuel storage facilities in Czechoslovakia.* The territorial management in Tabor, for example, has storage facilities in the following locations, all served by railroad and by tank trucks, which include several trucks of 15,000 liter capacity supplied by UNIMRA:

a. Ceske Budejovice

Two reservoirs, of 25,000 liters capacity each, on the north side of the highway toward Trebon. This formerly belonged to the firm of Zikmund Brothers. Attached to the reservoirs is a large warehouse for storage of barrels. The reservoirs are served by electric pumps, and handle colored gasoline and crude oil.

Two reservoirs, of 2,000 liters capacity each, in the same area as the larger tanks described above. There is room for storage of barrels. The reservoirs are served by electric pumps and handle pure, uncolored gasoline.

Two underground reservoirs, with a total capacity of 35,000 liters, not in use at present as the pumping equipment is badly damaged. There is a

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large storage area for barrels and steel bottles of liquid gas. This unit is in a former sugar factory in Mlade, formerly used as a storage area for Vacuum Oil Co. The barrel storage warehouse is now used to store little used oils and lubricants. It is expected that this unit will be closed down.

- b. Pisek Two underground reservoirs, of 25,000 liters capacity each, near the railroad station. There is a small barrel storage warehouse.
- c. Strakonice Three underground reservoirs, two of 20,000 liters capacity apiece and a third of 30,000 liters capacity, and a small barrel storage warehouse near a large sawmill on the Strakonice-Frague highway about 12 km northeast of Strakonice.
- d. Tabor Two underground reservoirs, of 25,000 liters capacity each, and a small barrel storage warehouse on the south side of the Tabor-Jihlava railroad.
- e. Jihlava Six tanks, estimated at about 25,000 liters capacity each, and two warehouses for storage of barrels and liquid gas, near the Jihlava railroad station.
- f. Tele Two underground reservoirs, of 25,000 liters capacity each, and a small warehouse for the storage of barrels on the west side of the Jihlava-Moravska Budojovice railroad.
- g. Pehlimov Two underground reservoirs, with a total capacity of about 45,000 liters, and a small barrel storage warehouse near the railroad station on the west side of the highway toward Kamenice nad Lipou. It is planned to construct another reservoir and warehouse.
- h. Nove Mesto na Morave One reservoir with a capacity of 20,000 liters and a small barrel storage warehouse near the main railroad station.

Each of these storage areas is guarded by a civilian watchman armed with a pistol. In January 1950 it was decided to use certain alcohol reservoirs to store gasoline and oil since the Benzinol facilities were not sufficient for the needs of the producers of petroleum products.

3. Leading personnel of Benzinol National Corporation include the following:

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- a. General Manager Josef Rezek [redacted]
- b. Deputy Manager Ponser [redacted]
- c. Manager of the Tabor territorial management Josef Michal [redacted]
- d. Deputy Manager Brdlik [redacted]
- e. Political Deputy Josef Pacula [redacted]

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f. Technical Manager in
charge of pumps and
reservoirs

Josef Slais [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

g. Technical Manager in
charge of transportation

Karel Safarik [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* [REDACTED] Comment: It is presumed that Benzinol has no control over military
fuel dumps or supplies and transportation.

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